

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A method in a data processing system, the method comprising:
determining whether space is available in an inode, wherein the space is for data of a file of a file system, wherein the inode is an inode of the file system, and wherein the inode is also usable to store metadata associated with the file; and
responsive to space for the data being available, placing the data directly into the inode.
2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining whether additional data of the file is present; and
responsive to the additional data being present, storing the additional data in a partially filled block associated with another file, wherein the partially filled block is part of the file system.
3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
responsive to space for the data being unavailable, storing the additional data in a partially filled block associated with another file, wherein the partially filled block is part of the file system.
4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 3, wherein the partially filled block is a last block associated with the another file.
5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the data is placed into an extension area of the inode.

6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the file consists of the data and additional data, and wherein the method further comprises:

determining whether a size for the additional data is divisible by a block size for blocks in the file system; and

if the size is divisible by the block size, storing the additional data in at least one block of the file system.

7-22. (Canceled)

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

indicating that data is stored in the inode.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

determining whether placing the data in the inode was successful.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23 wherein indicating is performed by updating a flag.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2 further comprising:

using pointers to point to the partially filled block, wherein the pointers are included in the inode.

28-36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method comprising:
receiving a command to store a file in a file system having an inode, wherein the inode is
usable to store metadata associated with the file;
responsive to the file having a size that is greater than a block size of blocks in the file
system, storing data of the file only in an integer number of blocks, wherein a remainder data of
the file remains after storing, and wherein the remainder data is less than the block size; and
placing the remainder data directly into the inode.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 37 wherein placing
further comprises placing the remainder data in an extension area of the inode, wherein the
extension area was formerly reserved for the metadata.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 37 further
comprising:

responsive to second remainder data of the file still remaining after the remainder data is
placed into the inode, placing the second remainder data into an unused space of a first block of
the file system, wherein the first block also stores data of another file, and wherein the first block
comprises a last block of the another file.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 37 wherein the size
is less than the block size, and wherein the method further comprises:

placing data of the file directly into the inode.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 40, wherein a
remainder data remains after placing the data into the inode, and wherein the computer
implemented method further comprises:

placing the remainder data into an unused space of a first block of the file system,
wherein the first block also stores data of another file, and wherein the first block comprises a
last block of the another file.

42. (Withdrawn) A recordable-type computer readable medium on which is stored a computer program product executable in a data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for determining whether space is available in an inode, wherein the space is for data of a file of a file system, wherein the inode is an inode of the file system, and wherein the inode is also usable to store metadata associated with the file; and

instructions for, responsive to space for the data being available, placing the data directly into the inode.

43. (Withdrawn) The recordable-type computer readable medium of claim 42 wherein the file consists of the data and additional data, and wherein the computer program product further comprises:

instructions for determining whether a size for the additional data is divisible by a block size for blocks in the file system; and

instructions for, if the size is divisible by the block size, storing the additional data in at least one block of the file system.

44. (Previously Presented) A recordable-type computer readable computer readable medium on which is stored a computer program product executable in a data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for receiving a command to store a file in a file system having an inode, wherein the inode is usable to store metadata associated with the file;

instructions for, responsive to the file having a size that is greater than a block size of blocks in the file system, storing data of the file only in an integer number of blocks, wherein a remainder data of the file remains after storing, and wherein the remainder data is less than the block size; and

instructions for placing the remainder data directly into the inode.

45. (Previously Presented) The recordable-type computer readable medium of claim 44 wherein the computer program product further comprises:

instructions for, responsive to second remainder data of the file still remaining after the remainder data is placed into the inode, placing the second remainder data into an unused space of a first block of the file system, wherein the first block also stores data of another file, and wherein the first block comprises a last block of the another file.

46. (Previously Presented) The recordable-type computer readable medium of claim 44 wherein the size is less than the block size, and wherein the computer program product further comprises:

instructions for placing data of the file directly into the inode.